MEPS HC-010A:
1996 Prescribed Medicines

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User's Notes

This release updates data previously released on MEPS HC-010A: The Preliminary 1996 Prescribed Medicines File which was released to the public in December 1999. Differences between this release and the preliminary HC-010A release are the following:

1) The RXRECIDX for household reported prescribed medicines that were free samples only, for a person in a given round, will have a different value on this file than on the December 1999 preliminary release of this file. On this file, each of these events has a unique RXRECIDX value assigned to them. On the preliminary release of this file, one RXRECIDX value was assigned to the original free sample as well as additional acquisitions of the free sample, for a person in a particular round. Please see Section 2.6.2.4 of the documentation for more details on free samples.

2) The variable RXBEGYR on this release was named RXBEGYY on the December 1999 preliminary release of this file. In addition: (a) RXBEGYR=1999 on the preliminary release was recoded to a 99 which means "has not yet taken/used" and (b) RXBEGMM=95 on the preliminary release was recoded to a -9. This change was necessary due to a CAPI problem.

3) Up to three valid condition codes (and clinical classification codes) are listed for an event record on this release of the file. If there were fewer than 3 valid condition codes associated with a particular prescribed medicine event, the remaining invalid values (-8, -1 etc.) were placed on the file as well. (The first condition on this event file may not be the first condition that appears when linking to the HC-006 Medical Conditions File. Conditions on the HC-006 file were ordered in the order in which household respondents reported them, not necessarily in order of importance or severity.) On the December 1999 preliminary release of this file, conditions were sequenced in the same order as on HC-006.

4) The variable NUMEVNT (total number of medical events associated with a prescribed medicine event) is not included on this release of the MEPS HC-010A 1996 Prescribed Medicines file but was released on the preliminary release of this file. However, analysts can create NUMEVNT by using the RXLK file appropriately. Analysts should refer to the Appendix File for detailed linking examples utilizing the RXLK file and the CLNK file.

5) The Appendix File, and the RXLK and CLNK data files referred to in the HC-010A documentation and in this User's Notes, are scheduled for release in May 2000.

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A. Data Use Agreement

Individual identifiers have been removed from the microdata contained in the files on this CD-ROM. Nevertheless, under sections 308 (d) and 903 (c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242m and 42 U.S.C. 299 a-1), data collected by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and/or the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) may not be used for any purpose other than for the purpose for which they were supplied; any effort to determine the identity of any reported cases, is prohibited by law.

Therefore, in accordance with the above referenced Federal statute, it is understood that:

1. No one is to use the data in this data set in any way except for statistical reporting and analysis.

2. If the identity of any person or establishment should be discovered inadvertently, then (a) no use will be made of this knowledge, (b) the Director, Office of Management, AHRQ will be advised of this incident, (c) the information that would identify any individual or establishment will be safeguarded or destroyed, as requested by AHRQ, and (d) no one else will be informed of the discovered identity.

3. No one will attempt to link this data set with individually identifiable records from any data sets other than the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey or the National Health Interview Survey.

By using these data you signify your agreement to comply with the above-stated statutorily based requirements, with the knowledge that deliberately making a false statement in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the Federal Government violates 18 U.S.C. 1001 and is punishable by a fine of up to $10,000 or up to 5 years in prison.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality requests that users cite AHRQ and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey as the data source in any publications or research based upon these data.

B. Background

This documentation describes one in a series of public use files from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS). The survey provides a new and extensive data set on the use of health services and health care in the United States.

MEPS is conducted to provide nationally representative estimates of health care use, expenditures, sources of payment, and insurance coverage for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population. MEPS also includes a nationally representative survey of nursing homes and their residents. MEPS is cosponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) (formerly the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR)) and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

MEPS comprises four component surveys: the Household Component (HC), the Medical Provider Component (MPC), the Insurance Component (IC), and the Nursing Home Component (NHC). The HC is the core survey, and it forms the basis for the MPC sample and part of the IC sample. The separate NHC sample supplements the other MEPS components. Together these surveys yield comprehensive data that provide national estimates of the level and distribution of health care use and expenditures, support health services research, and can be used to assess health care policy implications.

MEPS is the third in a series of national probability surveys conducted by AHRQ on the financing and use of medical care in the United States. The National Medical Care Expenditure Survey (NMCES, also known as NMES-1) was conducted in 1977, and the National Medical Expenditure Survey (NMES-2) was conducted in 1987. Beginning in 1996, MEPS continues this series with design enhancements and efficiencies that provide a more current data resource to capture the changing dynamics of the health care delivery and insurance system.

The design efficiencies incorporated into MEPS are in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Survey Integration Plan of June 1995, which focused on consolidating DHHS surveys, achieving cost efficiencies, reducing respondent burden, and enhancing analytical capacities. To accommodate these goals, new MEPS design features include linkage with the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), from which the sampling frame for the MEPS HC is drawn, and continuous longitudinal data collection for core survey components. The MEPS HC augments NHIS by selecting a sample of NHIS respondents, collecting additional data on their health care expenditures, and linking these data with additional information collected from the respondents' medical providers, employers, and insurance providers.

1.0 Household Component

The MEPS HC, a nationally representative survey of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population, collects medical expenditure data at both the person and household levels. The HC

collects detailed data on demographic characteristics, health conditions, health status, use of medical care services, charges and payments, access to care, satisfaction with care, health insurance coverage, income, and employment.

The HC uses an overlapping panel design in which data are collected through a preliminary contact followed by a series of 5 rounds of interviews over a 2½-year period. Using computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) technology, data on medical expenditures and use for two calendar years are collected from each household. This series of data collection rounds is launched each subsequent year on a new sample of households to provide overlapping panels of survey data and, when combined with other ongoing panels, will provide continuous and current estimates of health care expenditures.

The sampling frame for the MEPS HC is drawn from respondents to NHIS, conducted by NCHS. NHIS provides a nationally representative sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population, with oversampling of Hispanics and blacks.

2.0   Medical Provider Component

The MEPS MPC supplements and validates information on medical care events reported in the MEPS HC by contacting medical providers and pharmacies identified by household respondents. The MPC sample includes all hospitals, hospital physicians, home health agencies, and pharmacies reported in the HC. Also, included in the MPC are all office-based physicians:

- Providing care for HC respondents receiving Medicaid.

- Associated with a 75-percent sample of HC households receiving care through an HMO (health maintenance organization) or managed care plan.

- Associated with a 25-percent sample of the remaining HC households.

Data are collected on medical and financial characteristics of medical and pharmacy events reported by HC respondents, including:

- Diagnoses coded according to ICD-9-CM (9th Revision, International Classification of Diseases) and DSM-IV (Fourth Edition, *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*).

- Physician procedure codes classified by CPT-4 (Common Procedure Terminology, Version 4).

- Inpatient stay codes classified by DRGs (diagnosis-related groups).

- Prescriptions coded by national drug code (NDC) and medication name.

- Charges, payments, and the reasons for any difference between charges and payments.

The MPC is conducted through telephone interviews and mailed survey materials.

3.0   Insurance Component

The MEPS IC collects data on health insurance plans obtained through employers, unions, and other sources of private health insurance. Data obtained in the IC include the number and types of private insurance plans offered, benefits associated with these plans, premiums, contributions by employers and employees, eligibility requirements, and employer characteristics.

Establishments participating in the MEPS IC are selected through four sampling frames:

- A list of employers or other insurance providers identified by MEPS HC respondents who report having private health insurance at the Round 1 interview.

- A Bureau of the Census list frame of private-sector business establishments.

- The Census of Governments from Bureau of the Census.

- An Internal Revenue Service list of the self-employed.

To provide an integrated picture of health insurance, data collected from the first sampling frame (employers and insurance providers) are linked back to data provided by the MEPS HC respondents. Data from the other three sampling frames are collected to provide annual national and State estimates of the supply of private health insurance available to American workers and to evaluate policy issues pertaining to health insurance.

The MEPS IC is an annual survey. Data are collected from the selected organizations through a prescreening telephone interview, a mailed questionnaire, and a telephone follow-up for nonrespondents.

4.0   Nursing Home Component

The 1996 MEPS NHC was a survey of nursing homes and persons residing in or admitted to nursing homes at any time during calendar year 1996. The NHC gathered information on the demographic characteristics, residence history, health and functional status, use of services, use of prescription medicines, and health care expenditures of nursing home residents. Nursing home administrators and designated staff also provided information on facility size, ownership,

certification status, services provided, revenues and expenses, and other facility characteristics. Data on the income, assets, family relationships, and care-giving services for sampled nursing home residents were obtained from next-of-kin or other knowledgeable persons in the community.

The 1996 MEPS NHC sample was selected using a two-stage stratified probability design. In the first stage, facilities were selected; in the second stage, facility residents were sampled, selecting both persons in residence on January 1, 1996, and those admitted during the period January 1 through December 31.

The sample frame for facilities was derived from the National Health Provider Inventory, which is updated periodically by NCHS. The MEPS NHC data were collected in person in 3 rounds of data collection over a 1½-year period using the CAPI system. Community data were collected by telephone using computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) technology. At the end of 3 rounds of data collection, the sample consisted of 815 responding facilities, 3,209 residents in the facility on January 1, and 2,690 eligible residents admitted during 1996.

5.0   Survey Management

MEPS data are collected under the authority of the U.S. Public Health Service Act. They are edited and published in accordance with the confidentiality provisions of this act and the Privacy Act. NCHS provides consultation and technical assistance in this regard.

As soon as data collection and editing are completed, the MEPS survey data are released to the public in staged releases of summary reports and microdata files. Summary reports are released as printed documents and electronic files. Microdata files are released on CD-ROM and/or as electronic files.
Printed documents and CD-ROMs are available through the AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse. Write or call:

> AHRQ Publications Clearinghouse
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> P.O. Box 8547
> Silver Spring, MD 20907
> 800/358-9295
> 410/381-3150 (callers outside the United States only)
> 888/586-6340 (toll-free TDD service; hearing impaired only)

Be sure to specify the AHRQ number of the document or CD-ROM you are requesting. Selected electronic files are available from the Internet on the MEPS web site: <http://www.meps.ahrq.gov/>.

Additional information on MEPS is available from the MEPS project manager or the MEPS public use data manager at the Center for Cost and Financing Studies, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 2101 East Jefferson Street, Suite 500, Rockville, MD 20852 (301/594-1406).

C. Technical and Programming Information

1.0   General Information

This documentation describes one in a series of public use event files from the 1996 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component (MEPS HC) and Medical Provider Component (MPC) . Released as an ASCII data file and SAS transport file, this public use file provides detailed information on household-reported prescribed medicines for a nationally representative sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States and can be used to make estimates of prescribed medicine utilization and expenditures for calendar year 1996. Each record on this event file represents a unique prescribed medicine event; that is, a prescribed medicine reported as being purchased or otherwise obtained by the household respondent. In addition to expenditures related to the prescribed medicine, each record contains household reported characteristics and medical conditions associated with the prescribed medicine.

Data from this event file can be merged with other 1996 MEPS HC data files, for purposes of appending person characteristics such as demographic or health insurance coverage to each prescribed medicine record.

Counts of prescribed medicine utilization are based entirely on household reports. Information from the Pharmacy Component (within the MEPS Medical Provider Component) was used to provide expenditure and payment data as well as details of the medication (e.g., strength, quantity, etc.).

The file can be used to construct summary variables of expenditures, sources of payment, and other aspects of utilization of prescribed medicines. Aggregate annual person level information on the use of prescribed medicines and other health services use in 1996 is provided on public use file HC-011, where each record represents a MEPS sampled person.

The following documentation offers a brief overview of the types and levels of data provided, the content and structure of the files and the codebook, and programming information. It contains the following sections:

Data File Information
Sample Weights and Variance Estimation Variables
Merging MEPS Data Files
Programming Information
References
Codebook
Variable to Source Crosswalk

For more information on MEPS HC survey design see S. Cohen, 1997; J. Cohen, 1997; and S. Cohen, 1996. For information on the MEPS MPC design, see S. Cohen, 1998. A copy of the survey instrument used to collect the information on this file is available on the MEPS web site at the following address: <http**://**www.meps.ahrq.gov>.

2.0   Data File Information

This public use data set contains 171,587 prescribed medicine records. Each record represents one household-reported prescribed medicine that was purchased or obtained during calendar year 1996. These data were collected during rounds 1, 2, and 3 of the MEPS HC. Of the 171,587 prescribed medicine records, 169,153 records are associated with persons having a positive person level weight (WTDPER96). The persons represented on this file had to meet either criteria a or b below:

> a) Be classified as a key in-scope person who responded for his or her entire period of 1996 eligibility (i.e., persons with a positive 1996 full-year person level sampling weight (WTDPER96 > 0)), or

> b) Be classified as either an eligible non-key person or an eligible out-of-scope person who responded for his or her entire period of 1996 eligibility, and belonged to a family (i.e., all persons with the same value for a particular FAMID variable) in which all eligible family members responded for their entire period of 1996 eligibility, and at least one family member has a positive 1996 full-year person weight   (i.e., eligible non-key or eligible out-of-scope persons who are members of a family, all of whose members have a positive 1996 full-year MEPS family level weight (WTFAM96 >0)).

Please refer to Attachment 1 for definitions of key, non-key, inscope and eligible. Persons with no prescribed medicine use for 1996 are not included on this file (but are represented on MEPS person level files). A codebook for the data file is provided.

This file includes prescribed medicine records for all household survey respondents who resided in eligible responding households and reported at least one prescribed medicine. Only prescribed medicines that were purchased or otherwise obtained in calendar year 1996 are represented on this file. This file includes prescribed medicines identified in the Prescribed Medicines section of the Household Component survey instrument, as well as those prescribed medicines identified in association with medical events. Each record on this file represents a single acquisition of a prescribed medicine reported by household respondents. Some household respondents may have multiple acquisitions of prescribed medicines and thus will be represented in multiple records on this file. Other household respondents may have reported no acquisitions of prescribed medicines and thus will have no records on this file.

It should also be noted that free samples and refills are included on this file. The HC obtains information on the name of the prescribed medicine and the number of refills, if any, associated with it. The data collection design for the HC does not allow separate records to be created for multiple acquisitions of the same prescribed medicine. However, in the Pharmacy Component, each original purchase, as well as any refill, is considered a unique prescribed medicine event. Therefore, for the purposes of editing, imputation and analysis, all records in the Household Component were "unfolded" to create separate records for each original purchase and each refill. Please note, MEPS did not collect information in the HC to distinguish multiple acquisitions of the same drug between the original purchase and refills. The survey only collected data on the number of times a prescribed medicine was acquired during a round. In some cases, all purchases may have been refills of an original purchase in a prior round or prior to the survey year. The file also includes a flag variable, (FREEFLG), which indicates whether or not the event has been designated as a free sample. (To obtain more details on free samples, please see Section 2.6.2.4)

Each record on this file includes the following: an identifier for each unique prescribed medicine; detailed characteristics associated with the event (e.g., National Drug Code (NDC), medicine name, etc.); conditions, if any, associated with the medicine; the date on which the person first used the medicine; total expenditure and sources of payments; types of pharmacies that filled the household's prescriptions; whether the prescription is designated a free sample of a medicine; and a full-year person level weight.

Data from this file can be merged with previously released MEPS HC person level data using the unique person identifier, DUPERSID, to append person characteristics such as demographic or health insurance coverage to each record. Data from this file can also be merged with the person level expenditure file (HC-011) to estimate expenditures for persons with prescribed medicines. Prescribed medicine events can also be linked to the MEPS 1996 Medical Conditions File (HC-006) and additional MEPS 1996 event files (HC-010B through HC-010H). Please see the Appendix File for details on how to link MEPS data files.

2.1   Codebook Structure

For each variable on the file, both weighted and unweighted frequencies are provided. The codebook and data file sequence list variables in the following order:

Unique person identifiers
Unique prescribed medicine identifiers
Other survey administration variables
Prescribed medicine characteristics variables
ICD-9 codes
Clinical Classification Software codes
Expenditure variables
Weight and variance estimation variables

2.2   Reserved Codes

The following reserved code values are used:

VALUE	DEFINITION
-1 INAPPLICABLE	Question was not asked due to skip pattern.
-2 DETERMINED IN A PREVIOUS ROUND	Question was not asked in round because there was no change in employment status or no change in current main job since previous round.
-3 NO DATA IN ROUND	Person has no data in round.
-5 NEVER WILL KNOW	Person never will know answer.
-6 INAPPLICABLE	Not asked due to person being under age 5.
-7 REFUSED	Question was asked and respondent refused to answer question.
-8 DK	Question was asked and respondent did not know answer.
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	Interviewer did not record the data.
-13 VALUE SUPPRESSED	Data suppressed.

Generally, values of -1, -7, -8 and -9 have not been edited on this file. The values of -1 and -9 can be edited by analysts by following the skip patterns in the questionnaire. The value of -13 was assigned when originally reported Household Component and Pharmacy Component data were suppressed because imputed versions of the variable are available on the Public Use File.

2.3   Codebook Format

This codebook describes an ASCII data set (although the data are also being provided in a SAS transport file). The following codebook items are provided for each variable:

IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION
Name	Variable name (maximum of 8 characters)
Description	Variable descriptor (maximum of 40 characters)
Format	Number of bytes
Type	Type of data: numeric (indicated by NUM) or character (indicated by CHAR)
Start	Beginning column position of variable in record
End	Ending column position of variable in record

2.4   Variable Naming

In general, variable names reflect the content of the variable, with an 8 character limitation. For questions asked in a specific round, the end digit in the variable name reflects the round in which the question was asked. Generally, imputed/edited variables end with an "X".

2.4.1   General

Variables contained on this file were derived from the HC questionnaire itself, the MPC data collection instrument, or from the CAPI. The source of each variable is identified in Section E, entitled "Variable-Source Crosswalk." Sources for each variable are indicated in one of four ways: (1) variables which are derived from CAPI or assigned in sampling are so indicated; (2) variables which come from one or more specific questions have those numbers and the questionnaire section indicated in the "Source" column; (3) variables constructed from multiple questions using complex algorithms are labeled "Constructed" in the "Source" column; and (4) variables which have been imputed are so indicated.

2.4.2   Expenditure and Source of Payment Variables

Only imputed/edited versions of the expenditure variables are provided on the file. Expenditure variables on this event file follow a standard naming convention and are seven characters in length. The 12 source of payment variables and one sum of payments variable are named consistently in the following way:

The first two characters indicate the type of event:

IP - inpatient stay   OB - office-based visit
ER - emergency room visit   OP - outpatient visit
HH - home health visit   DV - dental visit
OM - other medical equipment   RX - prescribed medicine

In the case of the source of payment variables, the third and fourth characters indicate:

SF – self or family	OF – other Federal Government	XP – sum of payments
MR – Medicare	SL – State/local government	
MD – Medicaid	WC – Worker's Compensation	
PV – private insurance	OT – other insurance	
VA – Veterans	OR – other private	
CH – CHAMPUS/CHAMPVA	OU – other public	

The fifth and sixth characters indicate the year (96). All imputed/edited expenditure variables end with an "X".

For example, RXSF96X is the edited/imputed amount paid by self or family for the 1996 prescribed medicine expenditure.

2.5   Data Collection

Data regarding prescription drugs were obtained through the household questionnaire and a pharmacy follow-back component (within the Medical Provider Component).

2.5.1 Methodology for Collecting Household Reported Variables

During each round of the MEPS HC, all respondents were asked to supply the name of any prescribed medicine they or their family members purchased or otherwise obtained during that round. For each medicine in each round, the following information was collected: whether any free samples of the medicine were obtained; the name(s) of any health problems the medicine was prescribed for; the number of times the prescription medicine was obtained or purchased; the year, month, and day on which the person first used the medicine; and a list of the names, addresses, and types of pharmacies that filled the household's prescriptions. In the HC, respondents were asked if they send in claim forms for their prescriptions (self-filers) or if their pharmacy providers do this automatically for them at the point of purchase (non-self-filers). For non-self-filers, charge and payment information was collected in the pharmacy follow-back component. However, charge and payment information was collected for self-filers in the household questionnaire, because payments by private third-party payers for self-filers' purchases would not be available from pharmacies.

2.5.2 Methodology for Collecting Pharmacy-Reported Variables

If the respondent with the prescription gave written permission to release his or her pharmacy records, pharmacy providers identified by the household were contacted by mail for the pharmacy follow-back component. The signed permission forms were provided to the various establishments

prior to making any requests for information. Each establishment was informed of all persons participating in the survey who had prescriptions filled at their place of business, and a computerized printout of all prescriptions filled for each person was sought. For each medication listed, the following information was requested: date filled; National Drug Code (NDC); medication name; strength of medicine (amount and unit); quantity (package size/amount dispensed); total charge; and payments by source. For more details on the data collection procedures, as well as response rate information, please refer to the following MEPS Methodology Report, which will be available on the MEPS web site and from the AHRQ Clearinghouse in the near future, "Data Collection and Editing Procedures for Prescribed Medicines in the 1996 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component" (Moeller, Stagnitti, Horan, et al., 2000).

2.6   File Contents

2.6.1   Survey Administration Variables

2.6.1.1 Person Identifier Variables (DUID, PID, DUPERSID)

The dwelling unit ID (DUID) is a 5-digit random number assigned after the case was sampled for MEPS. The 3-digit person number (PID) uniquely identifies each person within the dwelling unit. The 8-character variable DUPERSID uniquely identifies each person represented on the file and is the combination of the variables DUID and PID. For detailed information on dwelling units and families, please refer to the documentation of a public use file containing person level population characteristics.

2.6.1.2 Record Identifier Variables (RXRECIDX, LINKIDX)

The variable RXRECIDX uniquely identifies each record on the file. This 17-character variable is comprised of the following components: prescribed medicine event generated through the Household Component (positions 1-12) + unique drug identifier (positions 13-14) + refill number (positions 15-17). The prescribed medicine event generated through the Household Component (positions 1-12) can be used to link a prescribed medicine event to the conditions file and to other event files, via link files, and is provided on this file as the variable LINKIDX. (For more details on linking, please refer to the Appendix File.) The unique drug identifier enumerates the unique drugs associated with each household reported prescribed medicine for a person in a given round, where a unique drug is defined as having a unique National Drug Code value (reported in the variable RXNDC). Finally, the refill number enumerates the refills of each unique drug. For example, a person in Round 1 of the household interview reports having purchased Amoxicillin. This could be represented on the prescribed medicines event file (HC-010A) as one event or several events depending on the number of unique NDC's and purchases of each unique NDC associated with Amoxicillin for this person in this round.

The following hypothetical example illustrates the structure of these ID variables. These five records describe one household reported prescribed medicine for a person in a given round, which includes three unique prescribed medicines, with the first medicine having three purchases with the same National Drug Code (NDC).

DUPERSID	RXRECIDX	LINKIDX	RXNDC
00002026	0000202600830 1001	000020260083	00364021802
00002026	0000202600830 1002	000020260083	00364021802
00002026	0000202600830 1003	000020260083	00364021802
00002026	0000202600830 2001	000020260083	00364044201
00002026	0000202600830 3001	000020260083	00364046105

2.6.1.3 Round Variable (PURCHRD)

The variable PURCHRD indicates the round in which the prescribed medicine was obtained/purchased and takes on the value of 1, 2, or 3.

2.6.2   Characteristics of Prescribed Medicine Events

2.6.2.1 Date When Prescribed Medicine Was First Taken (RXBEGDD-RXBEGYR)

There are three variables which indicate when a prescribed medicine was first taken (or obtained), as reported by the household. They are the following: RXBEGDD indicates the day a person first started taking a medicine, RXBEGMM denotes the month in which a person first started taking a medication, and RXBEGYR reflects the year in which a person first started taking a medicine. These variables have not been edited or imputed.

2.6.2.2 Prescribed Medicine Attributes (RXNAME-RXUNIT)

For each prescribed medicine included on this file, several data items collected describe in detail the medication obtained or purchased. These data items are the following:

      a. Medication name - pharmacy reported (RXNAME)
      b. Medication name - household reported (RXHHNAME)
      c. National Drug Code (RXNDC)
      d. Quantity of the prescribed medicine dispensed, e.g., number of tablets in the prescription (RXQUANTY)
      e. Form of the prescribed medicine; e.g., tablets (RXFORM)
      f. Strength of the dose of the medicine prescribed; e.g., 10 (RXSTRENG)
      g. Unit of measurement for the dose of the prescribed medication; e.g., mg (RXUNIT)

The National Drug Code (NDC) generally is an 11-digit code. The first 5 digits indicate the manufacturer of the prescribed medicine. The next 4 digits indicate the form and strength of the prescription, and the last 2 digits indicate the package size from which the prescription was dispensed.   NDC values were imputed from a proprietary database to certain Pharmacy Component (PC) prescriptions because the NDC reported by the pharmacy provider did not match to the proprietary database. These records are identified by RXFLG=3. AHRQ's licensing agreement for the proprietary database precludes the release of these imputed NDC values to the public, so for these prescriptions the household-reported name of the prescription (RXHHNAME) and the original NDC (RXNDC) and prescription name (RXNAME) reported by the pharmacist are provided to allow users to do their own imputation. Otherwise, the imputed NDC values for the RXFLG=3 cases may be accessed through the MEPS Data Center. For those events not falling in the RXFLG=3 category, the reserve code (-13) is assigned to the household reported medication name (RXHHNAME). For information on accessing confidential data through the MEPS Data Center, contact the MEPS Project Director by email at: <mepspd@ahrq.gov>.

Imputed data on this event file (and not the other event files) may include missing data. This is because imputed data on this file are imputed from the Pharmacy Component or from a proprietary database. These sources did not always include complete information for each variable but did include an NDC which would typically enable an analyst to obtain any missing data items.   For example, although there are a substantial number of missing values for the form and strength of the prescription that were not supplied by the pharmacist, these missing values were not imputed because this information is embedded in the NDC.

2.6.2.3 Type of Pharmacy (PHARTP1-PHARTP7)

Household respondents were asked to list the type of pharmacy from which their medications were purchased. A household could list multiple pharmacies associated with their prescriptions in a given round, or over the course of all rounds combined covering the survey year. As a result, this file contains, at most, seven of these household reported pharmacies, but there was no link in the survey or in the data file enabling users to know the type of pharmacy from which a specific prescription was obtained, if multiple pharmacies are listed. The set of variables (PHARTP1-PHARTP7) identify the types of pharmacy providers from which the person's prescribed medicines were purchased or otherwise obtained. The possible types of pharmacies include the following: mail-order, another store, HMO/clinic/hospital, and drug store. A -1 value for PHARTPn indicates that the household did not report an "n[th]" pharmacy. For example, if the household only reported two pharmacies, PHARTP3-PHARTP7 = -1.

2.6.2.4 Analytic Flag Variables (RXFLG-DIABFLG)

There are six flag variables included on this file (RXFLG, PCIMPFLG, SELFFLG, INPCFLG, FREEFLG, and DIABFLG). The variable RXFLG indicates how the NDC for a specific prescribed medicine event was imputed. This variable indicates whether or not there was any imputation performed on this record for the NDC variable, and if imputed, from what source the NDC was imputed. If no imputation was performed, RXFLG=1. If the imputation source was another pharmacy component record, RXFLG=2. Similarly, if the imputation source was a secondary, proprietary database and not the pharmacy component database, RXFLG=3. For these RXFLG=3 records, all the original data reported by the pharmacy is included on the record. Including only the original pharmacy reported data for these records was necessary in order to comply with legal restrictions associated with using the secondary data source as an imputation source. The imputed NDC value for the RXFLG=3 cases was used in the data editing, but is not available for public release. However, the imputed NDCs for the RXFLG=3 cases will be available through the MEPS Data Center. Information on this topic can be obtained through the MEPS Project Director at <mepspd@ahrq.gov>.

PCIMPFLG indicates the type of match between a household reported event and a pharmacy component reported event. Possible "match-types" include: (1) an exact match for a specific event for a person between the pharmacy component and the household survey, (2) refills of an exact match on the pharmacy component for a person, and (3) not an exact match, nor a refill of an exact match, between the pharmacy component and household survey (not an exact match means that a person's household reported event did not have a matched counterpart in their corresponding pharmacy component records). PCIMPFLG assists analysts in determining which records have the strongest link to data reported by a pharmacy. It should be noted that whenever there are multiple purchases of a unique prescribed medication in a given round, MEPS did not collect information that would enable designating any single purchase as the "original" purchase at the time the prescription was first filled, and then designating other purchases as "refills". The user needs to keep this in mind when the purchases of a medication are referred to as "refills" in the documentation.

SELFFLG indicates whether or not an event was for a self-filer (SELFFLG=1) or a non-self-filer (SELFFLG=0). Self-filers are those respondents who reported that they submitted their own insurance claims directly to their insurance provider in a given round. Non-self-filers are those respondents who had their pharmacy provider submit their health insurance claim directly to their insurance carrier in a given round. The same person may be both a self-filer and a non-self-filer during their period in the survey, but never in the same round.

INPCFLG denotes whether or not a household respondent had at least one prescription drug purchase in the pharmacy component (0=no, 1=yes).

FREEFLG indicates if a record on the file has been designated as a free sample (0=no, 1=yes). Each household respondent was asked in each round whether or not they received any free samples of a reported prescribed medicine during the round. However, respondents were not asked to report the number of free samples received, nor was it made clear that any free samples received

were included in the count of the number of times that the respondent reported purchasing or otherwise obtaining the prescribed medicine during the round. One of the acquisitions by the sample respondent of a prescribed medicine in a given round was classified as a free sample whenever the respondent gave a positive response to the free sample question. For self-filers, if there was only one acquisition of the drug during the round and the charge and payment information reported by the respondent disqualified the prescription as a free sample, then it was re-classified as a purchased prescription. For non-self filers, if the designated free sample was exactly matched to a prescription purchased by the same individual in the pharmacy component, then the free sample was also re-classified as a prescription purchase rather than a free sample.

When diabetic supplies, such as syringes and insulin, were mentioned in the Other Medical Equipment section of the MEPS HC, the interviewer was directed to collect information on these items in the Prescription Medicines section of the MEPS questionnaire. To the extent that these items are purchased without a prescription, they represent a non-prescription addition to the MEPS prescription drug expenditure and utilization data. Although these items may be purchased without a prescription, a prescription purchase may be required to obtain third party payments. For a majority of these types of events, third party payments were made, therefore, they are included on this file. Diabetic supplies can be identified in the file by using the variable, DIABFLG (0=not a diabetic supply/equipment or insulin, 1=is a diabetic supply/equipment or insulin). Diabetic supply/equipment and insulin events were identified by utilizing a proprietary database which assisted in assigning codes to each prescribed medicine event. This code assignment took into account the characteristics of the event. However, if desired, analysts are free to code and define diabetic supply/equipment and insulin events utilizing their own coding mechanism. If desired, DIABFLG can also be used by analysts to exclude diabetic supplies/equipment from their analyses.

2.6.2.5 Condition Codes (RXICD1X-RXICD3X) and Clinical Classification Codes (RXCCC1X-RXCCC3X)

Information on household reported medical conditions associated with each prescribed medicine event are provided on this file. There are up to three condition codes listed for each prescribed medicine event (99.7% of prescribed medicine events have 0-3 condition records linked). In order to obtain complete information associated with an event, the analyst must link to the HC-006 Medical Conditions File. Details on how to link to the MEPS Medical Conditions File (HC-006) are provided in the Appendix File. The user should note that due to confidentiality restrictions, provider reported condition information are not publically available.

The medical conditions reported by the Household Component respondent were recorded by the interviewer as verbatim text, which were then coded to fully-specified 1996 ICD-9-CM codes, including medical condition and V codes (see Health Care Financing Administration, 1980), by professional coders. Although codes were verified and error rates did not exceed 2.5 percent for any coder, analysts should not presume this level of precision in the data; the ability of household

respondents to report condition data that can be coded accurately should not be assumed (see Cox and Cohen, 1985; Cox and Iachan, 1987; Edwards, et al, 1994; and Johnson and Sanchez, 1993). For detailed information on conditions, please refer to the documentation on HC-006 1996 Medical Conditions File. For frequencies of conditions by event type, please see the Appendix File.

The ICD-9-CM condition codes were aggregated into clinically meaningful categories. These categories, included on the file as RXCCC1X-RXCCC3X, were generated using Clinical Classification Software (formerly known as Clinical Classifications for Health Care Policy Research (CCHPR)), (Elixhauser, et al., 1998), which aggregates conditions and V-codes into 260 mutually exclusive categories, most of which are clinically homogeneous.

In order to preserve respondent confidentiality, nearly all of the condition codes provided on this file have been collapsed from fully-specified codes to 3-digit code categories. The reported ICD-9-CM code values were mapped to the appropriate clinical classification category prior to being collapsed to the 3-digit categories.

The condition codes (and clinical classification codes) linked to each prescribed medicine event are sequenced in the order in which the conditions were reported by the household respondent, which was in chronological order of reporting and not in order of importance or severity. In addition, a small number of prescribed medicine events (less than 1%) are linked to conditions with valid ICD-9 procedure codes; these codes are not included on the prescribed medicine records but can be obtained by linking to the HC-006 Medical Conditions file. Again, please see the Appendix File for details on linking. Analysts who use the HC-006 Medical Conditions file in conjunction with this Prescribed Medicines event file should note that the conditions on this file are sorted differently than they appear on the Medical Conditions file. All valid condition codes for an event record were placed on the event file first. If there were less than 3 valid condition codes associated with the particular event, then the remaining invalid values (-8, -1 etc.) were placed on the file as well. The condition codes on the Medical Conditions File are not sorted by valid and invalid codes. Hence, the first condition on this event file may not be the first condition that appears when linking to HC-006 Medical Conditions File.

2.6.2.6 Record Count Variable (NUMCOND)

The variable NUMCOND indicates the total number of condition records which can be linked from HC-006: Medical Conditions File to each prescribed medicine event. For events with no condition records linked (NUMCOND=0), the condition and clinical classification code variables all have a value of -1 INAPPLICABLE. Similarly, for events without a linked second or third condition record, the corresponding second or third condition and clinical classification code variable was set to -1 INAPPLICABLE. In other cases, these variables had been assigned a value of -1 INAPPLICABLE on the linked condition record.

2.6.3 Expenditure Variables (RXSF96X-RXXP96X)

2.6.3.1 Definition of Expenditures

Expenditures on this file refer to what is paid for health care services. More specifically, expenditures in MEPS are defined as the sum of payments for care received, including out of pocket payments and payments made by private insurance, Medicaid, Medicare and other sources. The definition of expenditures used in MEPS differs slightly from its predecessors, the 1987 NMES and 1977 NMCES surveys, where "charges" rather than "sum of payments" were used to measure expenditures. This change was adopted because charges became a less appropriate proxy for medical expenditures during the 1990's due to the increasingly common practice of discounting charges. Although measuring expenditures as the sum of payments incorporates discounts in the MEPS expenditure estimates, the estimates do not incorporate any manufacturer or other rebates associated with Medicaid or other purchases. Another general change from the two prior surveys is that charges associated with uncollected liability, bad debt, and charitable care (unless provided by a public clinic or hospital) are not counted as expenditures, because there are no payments associated with those classifications. For details on expenditure definitions, please reference the following, "Informing American Health Care Policy" (Monheit, Wilson, Arnett, 1999).

2.6.3.2 Sources of Payment

In addition to total expenditures, variables are provided which itemize expenditures according to major source of payment categories. These categories are:

1. Out of pocket by user or family
2. Medicare
3. Medicaid
4. Private Insurance
5. Veteran's Administration, excluding CHAMPVA
6. CHAMPUS or CHAMPVA
7. Other Federal sources - includes Indian Health Service, Military Treatment Facilities, and other care by the Federal government
8. Other State and Local Source - includes community and neighborhood clinics, State and local health departments, and State programs other than Medicaid
9. Worker's Compensation
10. Other Unclassified Sources - includes sources such as automobile, homeowner's, liability, and other miscellaneous or unknown sources

Two additional source of payment variables were created to classify payments for particular persons that appear inconsistent due to differences between survey questions on health insurance coverage and sources of payment for medical events. These variables include:

11.   Other Private - any type of private insurance payments reported for persons not reported to have any private health insurance coverage during the year as defined in MEPS; and

12.   Other Public - Medicaid payments reported for persons who were not reported to be enrolled in the Medicaid program at any time during the year

Though relatively small in magnitude, users should exercise caution when interpreting the expenditures associated with these two additional sources of payment. While these payments stem from apparent inconsistent responses to health insurance and source of payment questions in the survey, some of these inconsistencies may have logical explanations. For example, private insurance coverage in MEPS is defined as having a major medical plan covering hospital and physician services. If a MEPS sampled person did not have such coverage but had a single service type insurance plan (e.g. dental insurance) that paid for a particular episode of care, those payments may be classified as "other private". Some of the "other public" payments may stem from confusion between Medicaid and other state and local programs or may be from persons who were not enrolled in Medicaid, but were presumed eligible by a provider who ultimately received payments from the program.

Please note, unlike the other events, the prescribed medicine events do have some remaining inconsistent responses between the insurance section of the Household Component and sources of payment from the PC (more specifically, discrepancies between Medicare only Household insurance responses and Medicaid sources of payment provided by pharmacy providers). These inconsistencies remain unedited because there was strong evidence from the Pharmacy Component that these were indeed Medicaid payments. All of these types of Household Component events were either exact matches to events in the Pharmacy Component or refills of exact matches, and in addition, all of these types of events were purchases by persons with positive weight.

2.6.4   Sample Weights and Variance Estimation Variables (WTDPER96-VARPSU96)

2.6.4.1 Overview

There is a single full year person level weight (WTDPER96) included on this file. A person level weight was assigned to each prescribed medicine reported by a key, in-scope person who responded to MEPS for the full period of time that he or she was in scope during 1996. A key person either was a member of an NHIS household at the time of the NHIS interview, or became a member of such a household after being out-of-scope at the time of the 1995 NHIS (examples of the latter situation include newborns and persons returning from military service, an institution, or living outside the United States). A person is in-scope whenever he or she is a member of the civilian noninstitutionalized portion of the U.S. population.

2.6.4.2 Details on Person Weights Construction

The person level weight WTDPER96 was developed using the MEPS Round 1 person level weight as a base weight (for key, in scope respondents who joined an RU after Round 1, the Round 1 RU weight served as a base weight). The weighting process included an adjustment for nonresponse over Round 2 and the 1996 portion of Round 3, as well as poststratification to population control figures for December 1996 (these figures were derived by scaling the population totals obtained from the March 1997 Current Population Survey (CPS) to reflect the Census Bureau estimated population distribution across age and sex categories as of December, 1996). Variables used in the establishment of person level poststratification control figures included: poverty status (below poverty, from 100 up to 125 percent of poverty, from 125 up to 200 percent of poverty, from 200 up to 400 percent of poverty, at least 400 percent of poverty); census region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West); MSA status (MSA, non-MSA); race/ethnicity (Hispanic, black but non-Hispanic, and other); sex; and age. Overall, the weighted population estimate for the civilian noninstitutionalized population for December 31, 1996 is 265,439,511 persons. The inclusion of key, in-scope persons who were not in scope on December 31,1996 brings the estimated total number of persons represented by the MEPS respondents over the course of the year up to 268,905,490 (WTDPER96 > 0). The weighting process included poststratification to population totals obtained from the 1996 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey (MCBS) for the number of deaths among Medicare beneficiaries in 1996, and poststratification to population totals obtained from the 1996 MEPS Nursing Home Component for the number of individuals admitted to nursing homes.

The MEPS Round 1 weights incorporated the following components: the original household probability of selection for the NHIS; ratio-adjustment to NHIS national population estimates at the household (occupied dwelling unit) level; adjustment for nonresponse at the dwelling unit level for Round 1; and poststratification to figures at the family and person level obtained from the March 1996 CPS database.

3.0   General Data Editing and Imputation Methodology

The general approach to preparing the household prescription data for this file was to utilize the pharmacy follow-back prescription data to impute information collected from pharmacy providers to the household drug mentions. For self-filers, information on payment sources was retained to the extent that these data were reported by the household in the charge and payment section of the household questionnaire. A matching program was adopted to link pharmacy follow-back component drugs and the corresponding drug information to household drug mentions. To improve the quality of these matches, all drugs on the household and pharmacy files were coded using a proprietary database on the basis of the medication names provided by the household and pharmacy, and, when available, the NDC provided in the pharmacy follow-back component. Considerable editing was done prior to the matching to identify free samples among household

drug mentions, correct data inconsistencies in both data sets, and fill in missing data and correct outliers on the pharmacy file.

Drug price-per-unit outliers were analyzed on the pharmacy file by first identifying the average wholesale unit price (AWUP) of the drug by linkage through the NDC to a secondary data file. In general, prescription drug unit prices were deemed to be outliers by comparing unit prices reported in the pharmacy database to the AWUP reported in the secondary data file and were edited, as necessary. Outlier thresholds were established in consultation with industry experts.

Drug matches between household drug mentions and pharmacy drug events for a person in the pharmacy follow-back were based on drug code, medication name, and the round in which the drug was reported. The matching of household drug mentions to pharmacy drug mentions was performed so that the most detailed and accurate information for each prescribed medicine event was obtained. Exact dates of purchase were only available from the follow-back component. The matching program assigned scores to potential matches. Numeric variables required exact matches to receive a high score, while partial scores could be assigned to matches between character variables, such as prescription name, depending on the degree of similarity in the spelling and sound of the medication names. Household drug mentions that were deemed exact matches to pharmacy component drugs for the same person in the same round required sufficiently high scores to reflect a high quality match. Exact matches were used only once and were taken out of the donor pool from that point on (i.e., these matches were made without replacement). Any refill of a household drug mention that had been matched to a pharmacy drug event was also matched to the same pharmacy drug event. All remaining unmatched household drug mentions for persons either in or out of the pharmacy follow-back were statistically matched to the entire pharmacy donor base with replacement by medication name, drug code, type of third party coverage, health conditions, age, sex, and other characteristics of the individual.

For more details on the editing and imputation procedures employed to create the prescribed medicines event file, please reference the following, forthcoming MEPS Methods Report, which will be available soon on the MEPS web site and from the AHRQ Clearinghouse, "Data Collection and Editing Procedures for Prescribed Medicines in the 1996 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Household Component" (Moeller, Stagnitti, Horan, et al., 2000).

3.1   Rounding

Expenditure variables on this file, HC-010A, have been rounded to the nearest penny. Person level expenditure information released on HC-011 were rounded to the nearest dollar. It should be noted that using the MEPS event files HC-010A through HC-010H to create person level totals will yield slightly different totals than those found on HC-011. These differences are due to rounding only. Moreover, in some instances, the number of persons having expenditures on the event files (HC-010A-HC-010H) for a particular source of payment may differ from the number of persons with expenditures on the person level expenditure file (HC-011) for that source of

payment. This difference is also an artifact of rounding only. Please see the Appendix File for details on such rounding differences.

3.2 Edited/Imputed Expenditure Variables (RXSF96X-RXXP96X)

There are 13 expenditure variables included on this event file. All of these expenditures have gone through an editing and imputation process and have been rounded to the second decimal place. There is a sum of payments variable (RXXP96X) which for each prescribed medicine event sums all the expenditures from the various sources of payment. The 12 sources of payment expenditure variables for each prescribed medicine event are the following: amount paid by self or family (RXSF96X), amount paid by Medicare (RXMR96X), amount paid by Medicaid (RXMD96X), amount paid by private insurance (RXPV96X), amount paid by the Veterans Administration (RXVA96X), amount paid by CHAMPUS/CHAMPVA (RXCH96X), amount paid by other federal sources (RXOF96X), amount paid by state and local (non-federal) government sources (RXSL96X), amount paid by Worker's Compensation (RXWC96X), and amount paid by some other source of insurance (RXOT96X). As mentioned previously, there are two additional expenditure variables called RXOR96X and RXOU96X (other private and other public, respectively). These two expenditure variables were created to maintain consistency between what the household reported as their private and public insurance status for hospitalization and physician coverage and third party prescription payments from other private and public sources (such as a separate private prescription policy or prescription coverage from the Veterans Administration, the Indian Health Service, or a State assistance program other than Medicaid).   Users should exercise caution when interpreting the expenditures associated with these two additional sources of payment. While these payments stem from apparent inconsistent responses to health insurance and source of payment questions in the survey, some of these inconsistencies may have logical explanations. Please note the Prescribed Medicines file is the only file on which some of these inconsistencies remain. Please see Section 2.6.3 for details on these and all other source of payment variables.

4.0 Strategies for Estimation

This file is constructed for efficient estimation of utilization, expenditure, and sources of payment for prescribed medicines and to allow for estimates of number of persons with prescribed medicines for 1996.

4.1 Variables with Missing Values

It is essential that the analyst examine all variables for the presence of negative values used to represent missing values. For example, a record with a value of -8 for the first ICD9 condition code (RXICD1X) indicates that the condition was reported as unknown.

For continuous or discrete variables, where means or totals may be taken, it may be necessary to set minus values to values appropriate to the analytic needs. That is, the analyst should either impute a value or set the value to one that will be interpreted as missing by the computing language used. For categorical and dichotomous variables, the analyst may want to consider whether to recode or impute a value for cases with negative values or whether to exclude or include such cases in the numerator and/or denominator when calculating proportions.

Methodologies used for the editing/imputation of expenditure variables (e.g. sources of payment, free samples, etc.) are described in Section 3.0.

4.2   Basic Estimates of Utilization, Expenditure and Sources of Payment

While the examples described below illustrate the use of event level data in constructing person level total expenditures, these estimates can also be derived from the person level expenditure file unless the characteristic of interest is event specific.

In order to produce national estimates related to prescribed medicines utilization, expenditure and sources of payment, the value in each record contributing to the estimates must be multiplied by the weight (WTDPER96) contained on that record.

Example 1

For example, the total number of prescription medicines excluding "free samples", for the civilian non-institutionalized population of the U.S. in 1996 is estimated as the sum of the weight (WTDPER96) across all prescription records excluding "free samples". That is,

$$\Sigma W_j = 2,116,488,639 \quad \text{for all records with FREEFLG}_j \neq 1 \tag{1}$$

Various estimates can be produced based on specific variables and subsets of records.

Example 2

 For example, the estimate for the mean out-of-pocket payment per prescription medicine purchase (excluding free samples) should be calculated as the weighted average of amount paid by self/family. That is,

$$\overline{X} = (\Sigma W_j X_j)/(\Sigma W_j) = \$14.97, \tag{2}$$

where
$$\Sigma W_j = 2{,}116{,}488{,}639$$
and
$$X_j = \text{RXSF96X}_j \text{ for all prescription records with RXXP96X}_j > 0 \text{ and FREEFLG}_j \neq 1$$

This gives \$14.97 as the estimated mean amount of out-of-pocket payment of expenditures associated with prescribed medicines excluding "free samples" and 2,116,488,639 as an estimate of the total number of prescription medicine purchases (excluding "free samples"). Both of these estimates are for the civilian non-institutionalized population of the U.S. in 1996.

Example 3

Another example would be to estimate the average proportion of total expenditures paid by private insurance per prescription medicine purchase (excluding "free samples"). This should be calculated as the weighted mean of the proportion of the total prescription purchase paid by private insurance at the prescribed medicine level ("excluding free samples"). That is,

$$\overline{Y} = (\Sigma W_j Y_j)/(\Sigma W_j) = 0.2983, \tag{3}$$

where
$$\Sigma W_j = 2{,}116{,}488{,}639$$
and
$$Y_j = \text{RXPV96X}_j/\text{RXXP96X}_j \text{ for all prescription records with RXXP96X}_j > 0 \text{ and FREEFLG}_j \neq 1$$

This gives 0.2983 as the estimated mean proportion of each prescription paid by private insurance (excluding "free samples") for the civilian non-institutionalized population of the U.S. in 1996.

4.3   Estimates of the Number of Persons with Prescribed Medicine Events

When calculating an estimate of the total number of persons with prescribed medicine events, users can use a person-level file (MEPS HC-011: Person Level Expenditures and Utilization) or this event file. However, this event file must be used when the measure of interest is defined at the event level. For example, to estimate the number of persons in the civilian non-institutionalized population of the U.S. with a prescribed medicine purchase in 1996 with an RXNDC = "00093310905" (Amoxicillin), this event file must be used. This would be estimated as

$$\Sigma W_i X_i \quad \text{across all unique persons i on this file,} \tag{4}$$

where

W_i is the sampling weight (WTDPER96) for person i

and

$X_i = 1$ if RXNDC = "00093310905" for any purchase of person i

     $= 0$ otherwise

4.4 Person-Based Ratio Estimates

4.4.1 Person-Based Ratio Estimates Relative to Persons with Prescribed Medicine Events

This file may be used to derive person-based ratio estimates. However, when calculating ratio estimates where the denominator is persons, care should be taken to properly define and estimate the unit of analysis up to person level. For example, the mean expense for persons with prescribed medicine purchases is estimated as,

$$(\Sigma W_i Z_i)/(\Sigma W_i) \quad \text{across all unique persons i on this file,} \tag{5}$$

where

W_i is the sampling weight (WTDPER96) for person i

and

$Z_i = \Sigma \, \text{RXXP96X}_j$ across all prescription purchases for person i

4.4.2 Person-Based Ratio Estimates Relative to the Entire Population

If the ratio relates to the entire population, this file cannot be used to calculate the denominator, as only those persons with at least one prescribed medicine event are represented on this data file. In this case MEPS File HC-011, which has data for all sampled persons, must be used to estimate the total number of persons (i.e. those with use and those without use). For example, to estimate the proportion of civilian non-institutionalized population of the U.S. with at least one prescribed medicine event with RXNDC = "00093310905" (Amoxicillin), the numerator would be derived from data on this event file, and the denominator would be derived from data on the MEPS HC-011 person-level file. That is,

$(\Sigma W_i Z_i)/(\Sigma W_i)$ across all unique persons i on the MEPS HC-011 file,   (6)

where

W_i is the sampling weight (WTDPER96) for person i

and

$Z_i = 1$ if $RXNDC_j$ = "00093310905" for any event of person i on the
                   event-level file

$= 0$ otherwise for all remaining persons on the MEPS HC-011 file

4.5   Sampling Weights for Merging Previous Releases of MEPS Household Data with this Event File

There have been several previous releases of MEPS Household Survey public use data. Unless a variable name common to several tapes is provided, the sampling weights contained on these data files are file-specific. The file-specific weights reflect minor adjustments to eligibility and response indicators due to birth, death, or institutionalization among respondents.

In general, for estimates from a MEPS data file that do not require merging with variables from other MEPS data files, the sampling weight(s) provided on that data file are the appropriate weight(s). When merging a MEPS Household data file to another, the major analytical variable (i.e. the dependent variable) determines the correct sampling weight to use.

5.0   Variance Estimation

To obtain estimates of variability (such as the standard error of sample estimates or corresponding confidence intervals) for estimates based on MEPS survey data, one needs to take into account the complex sample design of MEPS. Various approaches can be used to develop such estimates of variance including use of the Taylor series or various replication methodologies. Replicate weights have not been developed for the MEPS 1996 data. Variables needed to implement a Taylor series estimation approach are described in the paragraph below.

Using a Taylor Series approach, variance estimation strata and the variance estimation PSUs within these strata must be specified. The corresponding variables on the MEPS full year utilization database are VARSTR96 and VARPSU96, respectively. Specifying a "with replacement" design in a computer software package such as SUDAAN (Shah, 1996) should provide standard errors appropriate for assessing the variability of MEPS survey estimates. It should be noted that the number of degrees of freedom associated with estimates of variability indicated by such a package may not appropriately reflect the actual number available. For MEPS sample estimates for characteristics generally distributed throughout the country (and thus the sample PSUs), there are

over 100 degrees of freedom associated with the corresponding estimates of variance. The following illustrates these concepts using two examples from Section 4.2.

Example 2 from Section 4.2

Using a Taylor Series approach, specifying VARSTR96 and VARPSU96 as the variance estimation strata and PSUs (within these strata) respectively and specifying a "with replacement" design in a computer software package SUDAAN will yield the standard error estimate of $0.3522 for the estimated mean of out-of-pocket payment.

Example 3 from Section 4.2

Using a Taylor Series approach, specifying VARSTR96 and VARPSU96 as the variance estimation strata and PSUs (within these strata) respectively and specifying a "with replacement" design in a computer software package SUDAAN will yield the standard error estimate of 0.0083 for the weighted mean proportion of total expenditures paid by private insurance.

6.0   Merging/Linking MEPS Data Files

Data from this event file can be used alone or in conjunction with other files. This section provides instructions for linking the prescribed medicines file with other MEPS public use files, including: a person level file, the conditions file, and the other event files (HC-010B-HC-010H).

6.1   Linking a Person Level File to the Prescribed Medicines File

Merging characteristics of interest from person level files (e.g., HC-008: 1996 Full Year Population Characteristics File or HC-011: 1996 Expenditure File) expands the scope of potential estimates. For example, to estimate the total number of prescribed medicines purchased or otherwise obtained by persons with specific characteristics (e.g., age, race, and sex), population characteristics from a person level file need to be merged onto the prescribed medicines file (HC-010A), using the following procedure:

1.   Create data set PERSX by sorting the person level file, HC-008, by the person identifier, DUPERSID. Keep only variables to be merged on to the prescribed medicines file and DUPERSID.

2.   Create data set PMEDS by sorting the prescribed medicines file by person identifier, DUPERSID.

3. Create final data set NEWPMEDS by merging these two files by DUPERSID, keeping only records on the prescribed medicines file.

The following is an example of SAS code which completes these steps:

```
PROC SORT DATA=HC008(KEEP=DUPERSID AGE SEX EDUC)
OUT=PERSX;
   BY DUPERSID;
RUN;

PROC SORT DATA=PMEDS;
   BY DUPERSID;
RUN;

DATA NEWPMEDS;
   MERGE PMEDS (IN=A) PERSX(IN=B);
   BY DUPERSID;
   IF A;
RUN;
```

6.2   Linking the Conditions File (HC-006) and/or the Other Event Files (HC-010B-HC-010H) to the Prescribed Medicines File (HC-010A)

Due to survey design issues, there are limitations/caveats that an analyst must keep in mind when linking the different files. Those limitations/caveats are listed below. For detailed linking examples, including SAS code, analysts should refer to the Appendix File.

6.3   Limitations/Caveats of RXLK and CLNK

The RXLK file provides a link from the prescribed medicine records on HC-010A to the other event files (HC-010B-HC010H). When using RXLK, analysts should keep in mind that a prescribed medicine event may link to more than one medical event. When this occurs, it is up to the analyst to determine how the prescribed medicine expenditures should be allocated among those events. In order to obtain complete information about those other event files, the analyst must link to the other public use event files.

The CLNK provides a link from the Conditions File (HC-006) to the Prescribed Medicines file (HC-010A). When using the CLNK, analysts should keep in mind that (1) conditions are self reported and (2) there may be multiple conditions associated with a drug purchase. Analysts need to verify that a particular medication is indeed an appropriate medication in treating the condition.

Moreover, there may be some drugs that were purchased to treat a specific health condition for which there is no such link to the condition file.

7.0   Programming Information

The following are the technical specifications for the HC-010A data file, which is provided in ASCII and SAS formats.

ASCII version:
File Name: HC10A.DAT
Number of Observations: 171,587
Number of Variables: 52
Record Length: 309
Record Format: fixed
Record Identifier and Sort Key: DUPERSID

SAS Transport version:
File Name: HC10A.SSP
SAS Name: HC10A
Number of Observations: 171,587
Number of Variables: 52
Record Identifier and Sort Key: DUPERSID

References

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Attachment 1
Definitions

Dwelling Units, Reporting Units, Families, and Persons – The definitions of Dwelling Units (DUs) and Group Quarters in the MEPS Household Survey are generally consistent with the definitions employed for the National Health Interview Survey. The dwelling unit ID (DUID) is a five-digit random ID number assigned after the case was sampled for MEPS. The person number (PID) uniquely identifies all persons within the dwelling unit. The variable DUPERSID is the combination of the variables DUID and PID.

A Reporting Unit (RU) is a person or group of persons in the sampled dwelling unit who are related by blood, marriage, adoption or other family association, and who are to be interviewed as a group in MEPS. Thus, the RU serves chiefly as a family-based "survey operations" unit rather than an analytic unit. Regardless of the legal status of their association, two persons living together as a "family" unit were treated as a single reporting unit if they chose to be so identified.

Unmarried college students under 24 years of age who usually live in the sampled household, but were living away from home and going to school at the time of the Round 1 MEPS interview, were treated as a Reporting Unit separate from that of their parents for the purpose of data collection. These variables can be found on MEPS person level files.

In-Scope - A person was classified as in-scope (INSCOPE) if he or she was a member of the U.S. civilian, non-institutionalized population at some time during the Round 1 interview. This variable can be found on MEPS person level files.

Keyness - The term "keyness" is related to an individual's chance of being included in MEPS. A person is key if that person is appropriately linked to the set of 1995 NHIS sampled households designated for inclusion in MEPS. Specifically, a key person either was a member of an NHIS household at the time of the NHIS interview, or became a member of such a household after being out-of-scope prior to joining that household (examples of the latter situation include newborns and persons returning from military service, an institution, or living outside the United States).

A non-key person is one whose chance of selection for the NHIS (and MEPS) was associated with a household eligible but not sampled for the NHIS, who happened to have become a member of a MEPS reporting unit by the time of the MEPS Round 1 interview. MEPS data, (e.g., utilization and income) were collected for the period of time a non-key person was part of the sampled unit to permit family level analyses. However, non-key persons who leave a sample household would not be recontacted for subsequent interviews. Non-key individuals are not part of the target sample used to obtain person level national estimates.

It should be pointed out that a person may be key even though not part of the civilian, non-institutionalized portion of the U.S population. For example, a person in the military may be living with his or her civilian spouse and children in a household sampled for the 1995 NHIS. The

person in the military would be considered a key person for MEPS. However, such a person would not receive a person-level sample weight so long as he or she was in the military. All key persons who participated in the first round of the 1996 MEPS received a person level sample weight except those who were in the military. The variable indicating "keyness" is KEYNESS. This variable can be found on MEPS person level files.

Eligibility - The eligibility of a person for MEPS pertains to whether or not data were to be collected for that person. All key, in-scope persons of a sampled RU were eligible for data collection. The only non-key persons eligible for data collection were those who happened to be living in the same RU as one or more key persons, and their eligibility continued only for the time that they were living with a key person. The only out-of-scope persons eligible for data collection were those who were living with key in-scope persons, again only for the time they were living with a key person. Only military persons meet this description. A person was considered eligible if they were eligible at any time during Round 1. The variable indicating "eligibility" is ELIGRND1, where 1 is coded for persons eligible for data collection for at least a portion of the Round 1 reference period, and 2 is coded for persons not eligible for data collection at any time during the first round reference period. This variable can be found on MEPS person level files.

Pre-imputed - This means that only a series of logical edits were applied to the HC data to correct for several problems including outliers, copayments or charges reported as total payments, and reimbursed amounts counted as out of pocket payments. Missing data remains.

Unimputed - This means that only a series of logical edits were applied to the MPC data to correct for several problems including outliers, copayments or charges reported as total payments, and reimbursed amounts counted as out of pocket payments. This data was used as the imputation source to account for missing HC data.

Imputation - Imputation is more often used for item missing data adjustment through the use of predictive models for the missing data, based on data available on the same (or similar) cases. Hot-deck imputation creates a data set with complete data for all nonrespondent cases, often by substituting the data from a respondent case that resembles the nonrespondent on certain known variables.

Household Reported Drug (mention) - A household reported drug is a unique prescribed medication reported by a household respondent. A household reported drug is checked on the prescribed medicines roster as being created during that round or selected from a roster from a previous round. Associated with each household reported drug mention in a given round may be multiple acquisitions of the medication during that round. Due to the editing and imputation procedures for these data, cases with multiple purchases of the same medication may be assigned more than one variant of the medication based on its form, strength, manufacturer, or package size (i.e., its NDC). Thus, what originally was reported as a single medication in the Household Component may appear as multiple unique medications on the prescribed medicines event file.

D. Codebook

ALPHABETICAL AND POSITIONAL LISTING OF VARIABLES

-----ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF VARIABLES-----

START	END	NAME	DESCRIPTION
192	192	DIABFLG	Rx FOR INSULIN OR DIABETIC SUPPLY/EQUIPM
1	5	DUID	DWELLING UNIT ID
9	16	DUPERSID	PERSON ID (DUID + PID)
191	191	FREEFLG	Rx/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE IS A FREE SAMPLE
190	190	INPCFLG	PID HAS AT LEAST 1 REC IN PHAR COMP (PC)
34	45	LINKIDX	ID FOR LINKAGE TO COND/OTH EVENT FILES
211	212	NUMCOND	TOTAL # COND RECORDS LINKED TO THIS EVNT
188	188	PCIMPFLG	TYPE OF HH TO PC PRESCRIPTION MATCH
173	174	PHARTP1	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 1ST
175	176	PHARTP2	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 2ND
177	178	PHARTP3	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 3RD
179	180	PHARTP4	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 4TH
181	182	PHARTP5	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 5TH
183	184	PHARTP6	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 6TH
185	186	PHARTP7	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 7TH
6	8	PID	PERSON NUMBER
46	46	PURCHRD	ROUND Rx/PRESCR MED OBTAINED/PURCHASED
47	48	RXBEGDD	DAY PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE
49	50	RXBEGMM	MONTH PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE
51	54	RXBEGYR	YEAR PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE
202	204	RXCCC1X	MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE
205	207	RXCCC2X	MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE
208	210	RXCCC3X	MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE
245	250	RXCH96X	AMOUNT PAID, CHAMPUS/CHAMPVA (IMPUTED)
187	187	RXFLG	NDC IMPUTATION SOURCE ON PC DONOR RECORD
143	152	RXFORM	FORM OF Rx/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE (IMPUTED)
95	124	RXHHNAME	HOUSEHOLD REPORTED MEDICATION NAME
193	195	RXICD1X	3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE
196	198	RXICD2X	3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE
199	201	RXICD3X	3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE
225	231	RXMD96X	AMOUNT PAID, MEDICAID (IMPUTED)
219	224	RXMR96X	AMOUNT PAID, MEDICARE (IMPUTED)
55	94	RXNAME	MEDICATION NAME (IMPUTED)
125	135	RXNDC	NATIONAL DRUG CODE (IMPUTED)
251	256	RXOF96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER FEDERAL (IMPUTED)
275	280	RXOR96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER PRIVATE (IMPUTED)
269	274	RXOT96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER INSURANCE (IMPUTED)
281	285	RXOU96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER PUBLIC (IMPUTED)
232	238	RXPV96X	AMOUNT PAID, PRIVATE INSURANCE (IMPUTED)
136	142	RXQUANTY	QUANTITY OF Rx/PRESCR MED (IMPUTED)
17	33	RXRECIDX	UNIQUE RX/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE IDENTIFIER
213	218	RXSF96X	AMOUNT PAID, SELF OR FAMILY (IMPUTED)
257	262	RXSL96X	AMOUNT PAID, STATE & LOCAL GOV (IMPUTED)
153	162	RXSTRENG	STRENGTH OF Rx/PRESCR MED DOSE (IMPUTED)
163	172	RXUNIT	UNIT OF MEAS Rx/PRES MED DOSE (IMPUTED)
239	244	RXVA96X	AMOUNT PAID, VETERANS (IMPUTED)
263	268	RXWC96X	AMOUNT PAID, WORKERS COMP (IMPUTED)
286	292	RXXP96X	SUM OF PAYMENTS RXSF96X-RXOU96X(IMPUTED)
189	189	SELFFLG	EVENT IS A SELF-FILER EVENT
308	309	VARPSU96	VARIANCE ESTIMATION PSU,1996
305	307	VARSTR96	VARIANCE ESTIMATION STRATUM, 1996
293	304	WTDPER96	POVERTY/MORTALITY ADJUSTED PERS LEVL WGT

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                    MEPS HC-010A
                1996 PRESCRIBED MEDICINES

                DATE:      July 25, 2000


     ALPHABETICAL AND POSITIONAL LISTING OF VARIABLES

        -----POSITIONAL LISTING OF VARIABLES-----


   START      END     NAME       DESCRIPTION
      1         5     DUID       DWELLING UNIT ID
      6         8     PID        PERSON NUMBER
      9        16     DUPERSID   PERSON ID (DUID + PID)
     17        33     RXRECIDX   UNIQUE RX/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE IDENTIFIER
     34        45     LINKIDX    ID FOR LINKAGE TO COND/OTH EVENT FILES
     46        46     PURCHRD    ROUND Rx/PRESCR MED OBTAINED/PURCHASED
     47        48     RXBEGDD    DAY PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE
     49        50     RXBEGMM    MONTH PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE
     51        54     RXBEGYR    YEAR PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE
     55        94     RXNAME     MEDICATION NAME (IMPUTED)
     95       124     RXHHNAME   HOUSEHOLD REPORTED MEDICATION NAME
    125       135     RXNDC      NATIONAL DRUG CODE (IMPUTED)
    136       142     RXQUANTY   QUANTITY OF Rx/PRESCR MED (IMPUTED)
    143       152     RXFORM     FORM OF Rx/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE (IMPUTED)
    153       162     RXSTRENG   STRENGTH OF Rx/PRESCR MED DOSE (IMPUTED)
    163       172     RXUNIT     UNIT OF MEAS Rx/PRES MED DOSE (IMPUTED)
    173       174     PHARTP1    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 1ST
    175       176     PHARTP2    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 2ND
    177       178     PHARTP3    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 3RD
    179       180     PHARTP4    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 4TH
    181       182     PHARTP5    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 5TH
    183       184     PHARTP6    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 6TH
    185       186     PHARTP7    TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 7TH
    187       187     RXFLG      NDC IMPUTATION SOURCE ON PC DONOR RECORD
    188       188     PCIMPFLG   TYPE OF HH TO PC PRESCRIPTION MATCH
    189       189     SELFFLG    EVENT IS A SELF-FILER EVENT
    190       190     INPCFLG    PID HAS AT LEAST 1 REC IN PHAR COMP (PC)
    191       191     FREEFLG    Rx/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE IS A FREE SAMPLE
    192       192     DIABFLG    Rx FOR INSULIN OR DIABETIC SUPPLY/EQUIPM
    193       195     RXICD1X    3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE
    196       198     RXICD2X    3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE
    199       201     RXICD3X    3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE
    202       204     RXCCC1X    MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE
    205       207     RXCCC2X    MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE
    208       210     RXCCC3X    MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE
    211       212     NUMCOND    TOTAL # COND RECORDS LINKED TO THIS EVNT
    213       218     RXSF96X    AMOUNT PAID, SELF OR FAMILY (IMPUTED)
    219       224     RXMR96X    AMOUNT PAID, MEDICARE (IMPUTED)
    225       231     RXMD96X    AMOUNT PAID, MEDICAID (IMPUTED)
    232       238     RXPV96X    AMOUNT PAID, PRIVATE INSURANCE (IMPUTED)
    239       244     RXVA96X    AMOUNT PAID, VETERANS (IMPUTED)
    245       250     RXCH96X    AMOUNT PAID, CHAMPUS/CHAMPVA (IMPUTED)
    251       256     RXOF96X    AMOUNT PAID, OTHER FEDERAL (IMPUTED)
    257       262     RXSL96X    AMOUNT PAID, STATE & LOCAL GOV (IMPUTED)
    263       268     RXWC96X    AMOUNT PAID, WORKERS COMP (IMPUTED)
    269       274     RXOT96X    AMOUNT PAID, OTHER INSURANCE (IMPUTED)
    275       280     RXOR96X    AMOUNT PAID, OTHER PRIVATE (IMPUTED)
    281       285     RXOU96X    AMOUNT PAID, OTHER PUBLIC (IMPUTED)
    286       292     RXXP96X    SUM OF PAYMENTS RXSF96X-RXOU96X(IMPUTED)
    293       304     WTDPER96   POVERTY/MORTALITY ADJUSTED PERS LEVL WGT
    305       307     VARSTR96   VARIANCE ESTIMATION STRATUM, 1996
    308       309     VARPSU96   VARIANCE ESTIMATION PSU,1996
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NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
DUID	DWELLING UNIT ID	5.0	NUM	1	5

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
VALID ID	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PID	PERSON NUMBER	3.0	NUM	6	8

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
10 - 149	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
DUPERSID	PERSON ID (DUID + PID)	8.0	CHAR	9	16

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
VALID ID	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXRECIDX	UNIQUE RX/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE IDENTIFIER	17.0	CHAR	17	33

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
VALID ID	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
LINKIDX	ID FOR LINKAGE TO COND/OTH EVENT FILES	12.0	CHAR	34	45

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
VALID ID	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PURCHRD	ROUND Rx/PRESCR MED OBTAINED/PURCHASED	1.0	NUM	46	46

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
1	53,232	678,499,637
2	72,446	905,896,950
3	45,909	581,535,986
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXBEGDD	DAY PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE	2.0	NUM	47	48

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	50	662,863
-8 DK	3,946	48,681,953
-7 REFUSED	2	15,845
-1 INAPPLICABLE	39,423	504,705,417
1-31 DAY	128,166	1,611,866,494
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXBEGMM	MONTH PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE	2.0	NUM	49	50

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	51	711,193
-8 DK	1,720	21,550,401
-7 REFUSED	3	15,326
-1 INAPPLICABLE	34,840	447,532,826
1-12 MONTH	134,973	1,696,122,826
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXBEGYR	YEAR PERSON STARTED TAKING MEDICINE	4.0	NUM	51	54

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	274	3,645,002
-8 DK	4,302	51,501,256
-7 REFUSED	13	188,289
-1 INAPPLICABLE	58,788	750,760,276
99 HAS NOT YET TAKEN/USED	367	4,507,836
1909-1997 YEAR	107,843	1,355,329,914
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXNAME	MEDICATION NAME (IMPUTED)	40.0	CHAR	55	94

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	10,080	126,075,262
A-ZZZZZZZZZZ	161,507	2,039,857,312
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXHHNAME	HOUSEHOLD REPORTED MEDICATION NAME	30.0	CHAR	95	124

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-13 VALUE SUPPRESSED	147,187	1,872,242,624
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	2	25,530
A-ZZZZZZZZZZ	24,398	293,664,419
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXNDC	NATIONAL DRUG CODE (IMPUTED)	11.0	CHAR	125	135

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	3,803	49,443,934
00000000000	61	665,387
00000093300 - 99999999998	159,561	2,015,146,147
99999999999	8,138	100,360,264
OTHER	24	316,841
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXQUANTY	QUANTITY OF Rx/PRESCR MED (IMPUTED)	7.2	NUM	136	142

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	3,922	50,592,336
.57-8000	167,665	2,115,340,237
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXFORM	FORM OF Rx/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE (IMPUTED)	10.0	CHAR	143	152

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	7,026	87,357,763
A-ZZZZZZZZZ	164,561	2,078,574,810
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXSTRENG	STRENGTH OF Rx/PRESCR MED DOSE (IMPUTED)	10.0	CHAR	153	162

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	30,594	382,902,308
A-ZZZZZZZZZ	140,993	1,783,030,266
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXUNIT	UNIT OF MEAS Rx/PRES MED DOSE (IMPUTED)	10.0	CHAR	163	172

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	29,750	372,546,544
A-ZZZZZZZZZ	141,837	1,793,386,029
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP1	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 1ST	2.0	NUM	173	174

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	1,025	10,958,422
-8 DK	244	3,029,769
-7 REFUSED	1	15,650
-1 INAPPLICABLE	49	692,084
1 MAIL-ORDER	6,943	93,196,705
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	39,408	523,330,649
3 IN HMO/CLINIC/HOSPITAL	22,408	263,750,444
4 DRUG STORE	101,509	1,270,958,850
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP2	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 2ND	2.0	NUM	175	176

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	125	1,507,157
-8 DK	138	1,518,676
-7 REFUSED	1	15,650
-1 INAPPLICABLE	115,352	1,453,039,309
1 MAIL-ORDER	4,708	63,387,093
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	12,865	157,886,189
3 IN HMO/CLINIC/HOSPITAL	8,543	113,461,551
4 DRUG STORE	29,855	375,116,948
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP3	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 3RD	2.0	NUM	177	178

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-9 NOT ASCERTAINED	8	149,031
-8 DK	32	479,874
-1 INAPPLICABLE	159,156	2,005,220,013
1 MAIL-ORDER	1,566	19,928,628
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	2,792	37,058,257
3 IN HMO/CLINIC/HOSPITAL	2,007	27,381,982
4 DRUG STORE	6,026	75,714,788
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP4	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 4TH	2.0	NUM	179	180

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-8 DK	24	299,762
-1 INAPPLICABLE	168,956	2,129,634,324
1 MAIL-ORDER	157	1,987,030
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	466	6,975,837
3 IN HMO/CLINIC/HOSPITAL	619	8,439,789
4 DRUG STORE	1,365	18,595,831
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP5	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 5TH	2.0	NUM	181	182

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-8 DK	54	674,465
-1 INAPPLICABLE	170,692	2,154,199,117
1 MAIL-ORDER	176	1,091,667
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	177	1,940,773
3 IN HMO/CLINIC/HOSPITAL	116	2,271,403
4 DRUG STORE	372	5,755,148
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP6	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 6TH	2.0	NUM	183	184

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	171,489	2,164,462,529
1 MAIL-ORDER	2	27,031
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	26	318,573
3 IN HMO/CLINIC/HOSPITAL	23	251,252
4 DRUG STORE	47	873,188
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PHARTP7	TYPE OF PHARMACY PROVIDER - 7TH	2.0	NUM	185	186

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	171,567	2,165,579,291
1 MAIL-ORDER	13	254,840
2 IN ANOTHER STORE	4	70,891
4 DRUG STORE	3	27,551
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXFLG	NDC IMPUTATION SOURCE ON PC DONOR RECORD	1.0	NUM	187	187

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
1 NO IMPUTATION	147,066	1,870,830,322
2 IMPUTED FROM OTHER PC RECORD	121	1,412,303
3 IMPUTED FR SECONDARY SRC, BUT ORIG REPORTED	24,400	293,689,949
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
PCIMPFLG	TYPE OF HH TO PC PRESCRIPTION MATCH	1.0	NUM	188	188

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0 NONE	3,803	49,443,934
1 EXACT MATCH TO PC Rx FOR PID	47,143	595,800,331
2 REFILL OF EXACT MATCH TO PC Rx FOR PID	20,638	261,543,276
3 NOT EXACT MATCH NOR REFILL OF EX MATCH	100,003	1,259,145,031
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
SELFFLG	EVENT IS A SELF-FILER EVENT	1.0	NUM	189	189

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0 NON-SELF-FILER	158,336	1,975,661,050
1 SELF-FILER	13,251	190,271,524
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
INPCFLG	PID HAS AT LEAST 1 REC IN PHAR COMP (PC)	1.0	NUM	190	190

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0 NO	69,271	877,427,680
1 YES	102,316	1,288,504,893
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
FREEFLG	Rx/PRESCRIBED MEDICINE IS A FREE SAMPLE	1.0	NUM	191	191

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0 NO	167,784	2,116,488,639
1 YES	3,803	49,443,934
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
DIABFLG	Rx FOR INSULIN OR DIABETIC SUPPLY/EQUIPM	1.0	NUM	192	192

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0 NO	166,282	2,104,365,163
1 YES	5,305	61,567,410
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXICD1X	3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE	3.0	CHAR	193	195

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	9,809	127,346,782
-8 DK	1,036	14,939,472
001-139	5,682	73,010,667
140-239	1,773	23,479,550
240-279	20,072	248,101,661
280-289	682	7,935,951
290-319	9,060	118,813,978
320-389	11,096	143,283,699
390-459	31,687	400,452,358
460-519	26,023	317,024,989
520-579	6,782	87,732,500
580-629	7,253	92,215,878
630-677	91	1,077,812
680-709	5,122	66,218,275
710-739	11,099	137,857,053
740-759	400	4,783,077
760-779	11	163,694
780-799	11,014	133,533,089
800-999	4,675	61,602,405
V00-V99	8,220	106,359,682
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXICD2X	3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE	3.0	CHAR	196	198

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	162,454	2,053,434,783
-8 DK	60	761,261
001-139	483	5,730,148
140-239	67	974,208
240-279	404	4,752,107
280-289	27	288,412
290-319	532	6,820,761
320-389	728	9,987,598
390-459	1,426	17,474,892
460-519	1,958	22,181,729
520-579	410	4,962,552
580-629	301	4,141,065
630-677	2	29,848
680-709	96	1,299,155
710-739	985	11,906,647
740-759	6	73,812
780-799	1,037	13,289,685
800-999	269	3,232,483
V00-V99	342	4,591,429
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXICD3X	3 DIGIT ICD-9 CONDITION CODE	3.0	CHAR	199	201

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	170,069	2,147,122,104
-8 DK	14	248,429
001-139	44	675,954
140-239	12	159,900
240-279	93	781,346
280-289	1	5,457
290-319	34	450,816
320-389	95	1,315,881
390-459	156	2,198,337
460-519	260	3,409,953
520-579	84	1,459,242
580-629	146	1,186,447
680-709	21	302,337
710-739	225	2,567,165
780-799	148	1,440,732
800-999	81	978,045
V00-V99	104	1,630,427
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXCCC1X	MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE	3.0	CHAR	202	204

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	9,809	127,346,782
-8 DK	1,036	14,939,472
001-260	160,742	2,023,646,319
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXCCC2X	MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE	3.0	CHAR	205	207

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	162,454	2,053,434,783
-8 DK	60	761,261
001-260	9,073	111,736,529
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXCCC3X	MODIFIED CLINICAL CLASSIFICATION CODE	3.0	CHAR	208	210

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
-1 INAPPLICABLE	170,069	2,147,122,104
-8 DK	14	248,429
001-260	1,504	18,562,040
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
NUMCOND	TOTAL # COND RECORDS LINKED TO THIS EVNT	2.0	NUM	211	212

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	7,575	96,471,089
1-3	163,545	2,063,873,709
4	334	3,920,354
5	79	985,028
6	8	89,932
7	13	208,457
8	13	132,962
9	13	212,964
11	1	9,167
12	6	28,913
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXSF96X	AMOUNT PAID, SELF OR FAMILY (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	213	218

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	28,796	316,704,648
$0.01 - $5.00	46,834	595,604,624
$5.01 - $8.80	24,581	329,417,595
$8.81 - $18.15	35,679	464,063,560
$18.16 - $989.40	35,697	460,142,146
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXMR96X	AMOUNT PAID, MEDICARE (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	219	224

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	169,229	2,133,401,536
$0.04 - $7.71	593	7,835,239
$7.72 - $16.89	591	8,381,299
$16.90 - $43.27	585	7,938,547
$43.28 - $223.90	589	8,375,953
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXMD96X	AMOUNT PAID, MEDICAID (IMPUTED)	7.2	NUM	225	231

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	149,139	1,944,959,837
$0.08 - $7.09	5,635	56,211,545
$7.10 - $19.87	5,589	53,305,206
$19.88 - $38.92	5,695	55,504,433
$38.93 - $2488.59	5,529	55,951,553
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXPV96X	AMOUNT PAID, PRIVATE INSURANCE (IMPUTED)	7.2	NUM	232	238

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	105,383	1,274,637,389
$0.01 - $6.71	16,592	219,021,068
$6.72 - $18.70	16,523	224,983,323
$18.71 - $38.83	16,540	224,419,236
$38.84 - $2488.59	16,549	222,871,558
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXVA96X	AMOUNT PAID, VETERANS (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	239	244

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	168,684	2,127,439,148
$0.02 - $7.10	774	10,956,226
$7.11 - $17.63	679	10,583,796
$17.64 - $37.43	725	8,279,699
$37.44 - $337.60	725	8,673,704
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXCH96X	AMOUNT PAID, CHAMPUS/CHAMPVA (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	245	250

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	170,744	2,154,662,584
$0.08 - $8.49	212	2,385,188
$8.50 - $25.28	210	2,783,506
$25.29 - $58.88	211	2,864,903
$58.89 - $267.92	210	3,236,392
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXOF96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER FEDERAL (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	251	256

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	171,192	2,162,739,697
$0.03 - $5.00	143	753,054
$5.01 - $11.27	55	391,482
$11.28 - $26.37	99	1,027,514
$26.38 - $152.68	98	1,020,826
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXSL96X	AMOUNT PAID, STATE & LOCAL GOV (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	257	262

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	170,347	2,150,739,868
$0.18 - $7.42	318	3,673,310
$7.43 - $15.88	302	3,082,983
$15.89 - $41.30	379	5,264,603
$41.31 - $464.42	241	3,171,810
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXWC96X	AMOUNT PAID, WORKERS COMP (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	263	268

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	171,299	2,162,295,594
$2.24 - $22.15	72	983,397
$22.16 - $41.61	123	1,108,499
$41.62 - $57.89	21	320,018
$57.90 - $211.47	72	1,225,066
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXOT96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER INSURANCE (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	269	274

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	171,005	2,157,801,153
$0.15 - $9.40	146	2,261,654
$9.41 - $23.88	196	2,856,731
$23.89 - $35.93	96	1,172,950
$35.94 - $278.54	144	1,840,085
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXOR96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER PRIVATE (IMPUTED)	6.2	NUM	275	280

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	169,893	2,146,754,638
$0.14 - $7.23	426	4,870,723
$7.24 - $19.80	431	4,622,326
$19.81 - $48.60	416	4,205,111
$48.61 - $539.15	421	5,479,775
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXOU96X	AMOUNT PAID, OTHER PUBLIC (IMPUTED)	5.2	NUM	281	285

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	171,573	2,165,792,414
$3.07 - $4.96	4	29,454
$4.97 - $13.40	3	46,589
$13.41 - $43.12	5	50,595
$43.13 - $64.03	2	13,521
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
RXXP96X	SUM OF PAYMENTS RXSF96X-RXOU96X(IMPUTED)	7.2	NUM	286	292

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	3,803	49,443,934
$0.03 - $9.33	42,010	515,965,053
$9.34 - $21.35	42,021	528,760,660
$21.36 - $41.13	41,941	537,632,191
$41.14 - $2488.59	41,812	534,130,736
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
WTDPER96	POVERTY/MORTALITY ADJUSTED PERS LEVL WGT	12.6	NUM	293	304

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
0	2,434	0
916.46234-69380.204318	169,153	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
VARSTR96	VARIANCE ESTIMATION STRATUM, 1996	3.0	NUM	305	307

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
1 - 140	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

NAME	DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	TYPE	START	END
VARPSU96	VARIANCE ESTIMATION PSU,1996	2.0	NUM	308	309

VALUE	UNWEIGHTED	WEIGHTED BY WTDPER96
1 - 45	171,587	2,165,932,573
TOTAL	171,587	2,165,932,573

E. Variable-Source Crosswalk

E. VARIABLE-SOURCE CROSSWALK

MEPS HC010A: 1996 PRESCRIBED MEDICINES EVENTS

Survey Administration Variables

Variable	Description	Source
DUID	Dwelling unit ID	Assigned in sampling
PID	Person number	Assigned in sampling
DUPERSID	Sample person ID (DUID + PID)	Assigned in sampling
RXRECIDX	Record ID – Unique Prescribed Medicine Identifier	Constructed
LINKIDX	Link to condition and other event files	CAPI derived
PURCHRD	Round in which the Rx/prescribed medicine was obtained/purchased	Constructed

Prescribed Medicines Events Variables

Variable	Description	Source
RXBEGDD	Day person first used medicine	PM11OV1
RXBEGMM	Month person first used medicine	PM11OV2
RXBEGYR	Year person first used medicine	PM11
RXNAME	Medication name (Imputed)	Imputed
RXHHNAME	Household reported medication name	PM05
RXNDC	National drug code (Imputed)	Imputed
RXQUANTY	Quantity of Rx/prescribed medicine (Imputed)	Imputed
RXFORM	Form of Rx/prescribed medicine (Imputed)	Imputed
RXSTRENG	Strength of Rx/prescribed medicine dose (Imputed)	Imputed
RXUNIT	Unit of measurement for Rx/prescribed medicine dose (Imputed)	Imputed
PHARTP1-PHARTP7	Type of pharmacy provider – (1st-7th)	PM16

RXFLG	Flag variable indicating imputation source for NDC on pharmacy donor record	Constructed
PCIMPFLG	Flag indicating type of household to pharmacy prescription match	Constructed
SELFFLG	Flag indicating whether or not the event is a self-filer event	CP01/Constructed
INPCFLG	Flag indicating if the person has at least one record in the pharmacy component	Constructed
FREEFLG	Flag indicating whether or not the prescribed medicine was a free sample	PM07/Constructed
DIABFLG	Flag indicating whether or not prescribed medicine was classified as insulin or diabetic supply/equipment	Constructed
RXICD1X	3 digit ICD-9 condition code	PM09
RXICD2X	3 digit ICD-9 condition code	PM09
RXICD3X	3 digit ICD-9 condition code	PM09
RXCCC1X	Modified Clinical Classification Code	Constructed/Edited
RXCCC2X	Modified Clinical Classification Code	Constructed/Edited
RXCCC3X	Modified Clinical Classification Code	Constructed/Edited
NUMCOND	Total number of conditions associated with a prescribed medicine event	Constructed
RXSF96X	Amount paid, self or family (Imputed)	CP11/Edited/ Imputed
RXMR96X	Amount paid, Medicare (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXMD96X	Amount paid, Medicaid (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXPV96X	Amount paid, private insurance (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXVA96X	Amount paid, Veterans (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXCH96X	Amount paid, CHAMPUS/CHAMPVA (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXOF96X	Amount paid, other Federal (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXSL96X	Amount paid, state and local gov't (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXWC96X	Amount paid, Worker's Compensation (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed
RXOT96X	Amount paid, other insurance (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed

RXOR96X	Amount paid, other private (Imputed)	Constructed/Imputed
RXOU96X	Amount paid, other public (Imputed)	Constructed/Imputed
RXXP96X	Sum of payments RXSF96X – RXOU96X (Imputed)	CP12/CP13/Edited/ Imputed

Weights

Variable	Description	Source
WTDPER96	Poverty/mortality adjusted person level weight	Constructed
VARSTR96	Variance estimation stratum, 1996	Constructed
VARPSU96	Variance estimation PSU,1996	Constructed